

NEWS RELEASE





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USDA SEEKS FEEDBACK FROM CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA GROWERS ABOUT 2016 CROPS, STOCKS, INVENTORIES, VALUES

SACRAMENTO, CA – During the next several weeks, U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct two major mid-year surveys, the June Agricultural Survey and the June Area Survey. The agency will survey 2,327 farmers and ranchers across California and Nevada to determine crop production and supplies levels in 2016.

"Due to the widespread and significant impact of its results, the June Agricultural

Survey, also known as the Crops/Stocks Survey, and the June Area Survey, are two of the most important and well-known surveys NASS conducts," explained Chris Messer, Director of the NASS Pacific Regional Office. "When growers respond to the June Agricultural Survey, they provide essential information that helps us determine the prospective production and supply of major commodities in California and Nevada for the 2016 crop year. Everyone who relies on agriculture for their livelihoods is interested in the results."



NASS gathers the data for the June Agriculture Survey online, by mail, phone and through in-person interviews. For the June Area Survey, agency representatives visit randomly selected tracts of land and interview the operators of a farm or ranch on that land. Growers provide information on crop acreage – including biotech crops—as well as grain stocks, livestock inventory, cash rents, land values, and value of sales.

NASS will compile and analyze the survey information and publish the results in a series of USDA reports, including the annual <u>Acreage</u> report, <u>Rice Stocks</u> report and quarterly <u>Grain Stocks</u> report, all to be released June 30, 2016 at 9:00 am PT. Survey data contribute to NASS's monthly and annual *Crop Production* reports, as well as the

annual Small Grains Summary and USDA's monthly World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates.

"NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," stated Messer. "We recognize this is a hectic time for farmers and ranchers, but the information they provide helps U.S. agriculture remain viable and capable. I urge them to respond to these surveys and thank producers for their cooperation," said Messer.

All reports are available on the NASS website:

www.nass.usda.gov

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Pacific Regional Office at 1-800-851-1127.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions and look for "NASS Data User Community."

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